

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Before this Amendment, claims 1-15, 18-20, and 23-25 were examined. No claims are amended or added. Therefore, claims 1-15, 18-20, and 23-25 are present for examination, and claims 1, 18, 23, and 25 are the independent claims.

Applicants note with appreciation that claims 18-20 and 23-25 were allowed in the Office Action dated January 16, 2007 (Office Action"). Moreover, applicants note that the Office Action indicated that claims 1-15 were allowable, but were provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over copending Application No. 09/687,148, which is commonly assigned.

Applicants submit a power of attorney and terminal disclaimer herewith, and thus respectfully submit that any double patenting issues are therefore obviated.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejections be withdrawn. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,



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